AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended):   An image sensing apparatus comprising:

a setting state determination device which determines a setting state of the image sensing apparatus in image sensing;

an exposure calculation device which performs photometry for image sensing to calculate an exposure level upon an image sensing preparation instruction by an image sensing preparation instruction member;

an exposure level calculation device which calculates an exposure level of an image signal output after image sensing;

an exposure correction calculation device which calculates an exposure error value from the exposure level calculated by said exposure calculation device and the exposure level of a sensed image that is calculated by said exposure level calculation device;

a determination device which determines whether or not to correct the exposure error on the basis of at least one of the setting state of the image sensing apparatus that is obtained by said setting state determination device, an operation state of the image sensing apparatus, and an object brightness state in image sensing, wherein said determination device determines not to correct the exposure error in a case that at least one of the setting state of the image sensing apparatus, the operation state of the image sensing apparatus, and the object brightness state satisfies a predetermined condition, regardless of a magnitude of the exposure error calculated by said exposure correction calculation device; and

1090234 v1

an exposure error correction device which performs an exposure correction by using the exposure error calculated by said exposure correction calculation device, when it is determined by said determination device to correct the exposure error.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the setting state of the image sensing apparatus includes at least one of a state in which an exposure correction value is set, a state in which an exposure condition obtained by photometry is held, a state in which a photometry method is set to spot photometry, a state in which a manual exposure mode is set, and a state in which a long shutter mode is set, and

when any one of the states is set, said determination device determines not to calculate the correction amount of the exposure error value, and said exposure error correction device does not perform an exposure correction by using the exposure error calculated by said exposure correction calculation device.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the setting state of the image sensing apparatus includes a state in which a flash is so set as to emit light, and

when the flash is so set as to emit light, a correction width of a correction amount of the exposure error is changed in consideration of at least one of a flashlight amount, a distance to an object, a stop state, and a setting sensitivity.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the operation state of the image sensing apparatus includes a state in which an image sensing processing start instruction is received from an image sensing start instruction member before an end of exposure calculation processing by said exposure calculation device that starts

upon reception of an image sensing processing preparation start instruction by the image sensing

preparation instruction member, and

when the image sensing processing start instruction is received before the end of

exposure calculation processing by said exposure calculation device, an image is sensed at an

exposure value obtained during exposure calculation processing, said exposure correction

calculation device calculates the correction amount of the exposure error by using information in

exposure calculation so as to obtain a sensed image at correct exposure, and said exposure error

correction device corrects the exposure error of the sensed image by using the correction amount.

Claim 5 (original):   The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein when the image

sensing processing start instruction is received before the end of exposure calculation processing

by said exposure calculation device, and the setting state of the image sensing apparatus includes

at least one of a state in which an exposure correction value is set, a state in which an exposure

condition obtained by photometry is held, a state in which a photometry method is set to spot

photometry, a state in which a manual exposure mode is set, and a state in which a long shutter

mode is set, exposure starts after a correct exposure value is calculated at the end of calculation

processing by said exposure calculation device.

Claim 6 (previously presented):   The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in an

operation state of the image sensing apparatus in which an exposure state is held upon pressing

the image sensing preparation instruction member, when a state in which an image sensing start

instruction member is not pressed is held for not less than a given threshold time after the image

sensing preparation instruction member is pressed, said determination device determines not to

calculate the exposure error, and said exposure error correction device does not perform an

exposure correction by using the exposure error calculated by said exposure correction calculation device.

Claim 7 (currently amended):   An image sensing method comprising:

a processing step of determining a setting state of an image sensing apparatus in image sensing;

a processing step of performing photometry for image sensing to calculate an exposure level upon an image sensing preparation instruction by an image sensing preparation instruction member;

a processing step of calculating an exposure level of an image signal output after image sensing; and

a processing step of calculating an exposure error from the exposure level obtained by the photometry and the exposure level of the image signal,

~~wherein a determination is made~~ a processing step of determining whether or not to perform an exposure correction on the basis of at least one of the setting state of the image sensing apparatus, an operation state of the image sensing apparatus, and an object brightness state in image sensing, wherein said determination step determines not to correct the exposure error in a case that at least one of the setting state of the image sensing apparatus, the operation state of the image sensing apparatus, and the object brightness state satisfies a predetermined condition, regardless of a magnitude of the exposure error calculated by said calculation step of the exposure error; and

a processing step of performing the exposure correction by using the exposure error when a determination is made to perform the exposure correction an exposure correction ~~is performed by using the exposure error~~.

Claim 8 (canceled):

Claim 9 (previously presented):   A computer-readable recording medium, on which is stored a computer program comprising instructions for causing a computer to execute an image sensing method defined in claim 7.